

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of HARDINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023, Parish Room, High Street, Hardingstone**

The Parish Room, The High Street, Hardingstone, Northampton, NN4 6DA

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Present: Chairman Cllr P Thomas, Cllr J Bolton, Cllr S Clements, Cllr G Duncan, Cllr M Haines, Cllr B Jones, Cllr D Laughton, Cllr G Merritt, Cllr C Newman

Also present: Clerk Sally Willis, West Northants Councillors P Larratt and L Bowen and 5 members of the public

Meeting start 7pm

45/23	To Elect a Chairman for 2023/24 It was proposed that Cllr Thomas continue as chairman. He accepted
46/23	To Elect a Vice Chairman for 2023/24 It was proposed that Cllr Kerr continue as Vice Chairman.
47/23	Apologies Apologies received from Cllr Kerr, West Northants Cllr J Nunn and the Police
48/23	Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda None
49/23	Chairs Announcements Cherry Orchard has been transferred and we are just awaiting Land Registry paperwork. Annual Parish meeting is next Tuesday at the Village Hall at 7.45pm. Swing has been fixed on the Rec but we are still awaiting details for repair to trampoline. Clerk is leaving next week and activities may be limited until a new clerk is in post.
50/23	Clerks Report Clerk had nothing further to report.
51/23	Public Time There have been complaints about dog poo bags being left at the garages, can the council look to put in a new bin? It was noted that allotment leases have now been signed by the committee and will be signed by the council. The bus shelter by The Crown looks unstable. This has been reported and is on West Northants list of works.
52/23	Reports
a)	West Northants Councillors A grant has been received from government to help support with the rising cost of living. This has enabled extra food vouchers for children and pension vouchers. Work has begun on LAP – integrated services from NHS, Police and local authorities. Concern of lack of places at Wootton surgery with new houses being occupied was raised and options are being investigated. Budget for 2022/23 balanced. Budget for 2023/24 has increased most of which will cover inflation. Within budget is plans for a new SEND school (all ages), this will help with reducing associated school transport costs. In planning there is a new Assistant Director and merging of the 3 old systems is in progress. Highways is still under pressure to improve the roads and issues with the contractor is being addressed. There is investment in new technology to help with repairs to the roads. Buses and school buses are under review. Improvements to Queen Eleanor roundabout is being discussed regularly and WNC are awaiting approval of the scheme from National Highways. Enforcement of S106 is being sorted and we should see the benefits soon. Cllrs Larratt and Bowen leave
b)	Police Report showed 2 residential burglary, 1 criminal damage and 2 vehicle crime.
c)	Neighbourhood Watch No report
d)	Footpath Warden Paths walked and all OK.
e)	Neighbourhood Warden No report.

3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 4th April 2023
Minutes approved and signed.

23 Finance and General Purposes

To receive Receipts and Payments account

Opening Balance (1 st April 2023)	77,487.69
Expenditure to date	4,623.32
Income to date	33,864.68
Balance at 31 st January 2023	106,729.05

Resolved

Payments for Approval

Supplier	Pay code	Item	Invoice amount	VAT
British Gas	DD	Electricity	229.52	24.09
Zest Marquees	ol143	Marquee for coronation celebrations	485.76	80.96
Plusnet	dd	Broadband	26.40	4.40
Sally Willis	ol144	Clerk April	872.10	-
HMRC	ol144	PAYE	22.08	-
Standard Life	dd	Pension	73.44	-
Keith Rose	ol145	Village Maintenance and Cleaning	373.75	-
Wicksteed	ol146	Repairs to hurricane swing	368.80	61.47
Wicksteed	ol146	Credit to swing repairs	-	-
Wicksteed	ol146	Credit to swing repairs	128.80	21.47
5 Star Loos	ol147	Portaloos for coronation	168.00	28.00
R&G Groundworks	ol148	Grass Cutting	384.00	64.00
R&G Groundworks	ol149	Grass Cutting	595.20	99.20
West Northants Council	ol150	Euro bin for coronation	72.00	12.00
P Thomas	ol151	Items for coronation	24.98	4.16

Total **3,567.23** **356.81**

Income

HMRC	VAT refund	1,364.68
WNC	Precept	32,500.00

Total **33,864.68**

Resolved

c) To approve audit section 1 – Governance Statement

It was proposed that the council could say yes to all the statements.

M. Thomas 6/6/23

WNN/2023/0330	Single and two storey rear extension - 25, The Warren	no objections
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To consider response to planning application WNN/2023/0367 – Front Porch extension – 63 Martins Lane

There were no objections.

To receive update from the Committee

No further updates

13	<p>Community</p> <p>To receive update on coronation celebrations All ready. Posters to be updated with timings.</p> <p>To receive update from the working group Plants arriving for war memorial planters on 15th May. Thank you to the resident who had tidied the borders in the war memorial.</p>
/23	<p>Open Spaces</p> <p>To receive update on stone wall Councillors had met with the resident and builder to discuss the queries. It was proposed that instead of a sloping end to the wall it will be built straight to the end. This would be an extra £1300 approx. Extra work was approved.</p> <p>To receive update from working group Report of fence down to rear of scout hut. This will be investigated. Reports of fence down in alley by Massey Close. As this is private property there is little the council can do unless it is causing a danger</p>

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Date of next meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7pm Parish Room

Signed _____

M. Williams 6/6/23